

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4890

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, RP

SUBJECT: OPLE MEETING WITH US DOL REP. BRIAN TURNER

1. AT A BREAKFAST MEETING SEPTEMBER 8 WITH SECRETARY OF LABOR BLAS OPLE AND US DOL REPRESENTATIVE, BRIAN TURNER, OPLE SPOKE OF HIS MEETING WITH US DOL SECRETARY RAY MARSHALL AT THE RECENT UNITED FARM WORKERS CONVENTION IN CALIFORNIA. OPLE STATED THAT HE AND SECRETARY MARSHALL WERE IN AGREEMENT AS TO THE IMPORTANCE OF ILO IN SETTING INTERNATIONAL MINIMUM LABOR STANDARDS AND OF THE GREAT NEED TO DO THIS IN THE LIGHT OF MULTI-NATIONAL COROPORATIONS' EXPANDING INTO THE THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES. OPLE CONTENDED THAT AMERICAN LABOR INTERESTS IN WORLD LABOR STANDARDS CAN BEST BE SERVED BY THE US REMAINING IN THE ILO. HE RECOGNIZED THAT "THIS WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR THE US GOVERNMENT TO DO BECAUSE OF THE KISSINGER LETTER AND ALSO BECAUSE BOTH AMERICAN LABOR AND AMERICAN BUSINESS HAVE ALREADY DECIDED TO RECOMMEND WITHDRAWAL FROM THE ILO."

2. THE NEXT QUESTION, OPLE THOUGHT, WAS HOW CAN THE US COME BACK INTO THE ILO? IT WAS OPLE'S VIEW THAT THE MINIMUM CONDITIONS THE US REQUIRES FOR MAINTAINING AFFILIATION WERE AGREEABLE TO THE MAJORITY OF THE ILO AFFILIATES INCLUDING THE ARABS, BUT THAT THE ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE IS A DETERRENT TO

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THE LOGIC THAT OTHERWISE WOULD PREVAIL. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE FORTHCOMING GENEVA CONFERENCE ON THE ARAB-ISRAELI QUESTION WOULD RESULT IN REMOVING THAT QUESTION FROM THE ILO FORUM. OPLE FURTHER NOTED THAT, BAD AS THE ILO WAS, IT HAD NOT EXPELLED ISRAEL. THIS HE ATTRIBUTED TO THE TRI-PARTITE NATURE OF THE ILO WHERE GOVERNMENT EXCESSES ARE OFTEN TEMPERED BY LABOR OR MANAGEMENT.

3. OPLE FURTHER STATED THAT HE AND SECRETARY MARSHALL WERE IN AGREEMENT ABOUT THE DESIRABILITY OF WORKING OUT A BILATERAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM BETWEEN THE TWO DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR. US DOL BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, HE SAID, WAS WIDELY RESPECTED AND "PRESIDENT MARCOS HAS INSTRUCTED ME TO MERGE THE VARIOUS GOP LABOR STATISTICS GATHERERS UNDER MY DEPARTMENT." THIS WOULD BE AN ACTIVITY IN WHICH US DOL COULD DO MUCH TO HELP US IMPROVE OUR COMPETANCE.

4. UPON LEARNING THAT ABE RASKIN OF THE NEW YORK TIMES, HAVING RETIRED, HAS AGREED TO EDIT THE NEW US DOL INTERNATIONAL LABOR JOURNAL, OPLE EXPRESSED HIS ADMIRATION FOR RASKIN AND ASKED LABATT TO INQUIRE ABOUT RASKIN'S AVAILABILITY FOR A VISIT TO THE RP.

5. COMMENT: OPLE WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO MEET BRIAN TURNER. HIS APPOINTMENT SCHEDULE WAS JAMMED AND HE COULD HAVE PASSED THIS MEETING TO A SUBORDINATE BUT CHOSE A 7:30 BREAKFAST INSTEAD. A BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE US DOL AND THE GOP DOL ALREADY EXISTS. A JOINT OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT SEMINAR IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 1977 IN MANILA, A SUBJECT OPLE STATED NEEDED BEEFING UP IN THE RP, AND A REQUEST FOR CONCILIATION AND MEDIATION ASSISTANCE IS AWAITING US DOL APPROVAL. TECHNICIANS FROM THE GOP-DOL AND NEDA HAVE ATTENDED USAID FINANCED BLS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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